

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

DODE-00 TRSE-00 DOTE-00 /021 W

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R 110922Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3986

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

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CAPE TWON FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ESTC SF

SUBJ: PRE AND POST LICENSE CHECK - SAFAIR-LOCKHEED L-100-30

REF: STATE 52744

1. EMBOFF VISITED SAFAIR ON 11 MARCH TO VERIFY THAT L-100'S DELIVERED TO SAFAIR IN PAST HAVE BEEN USED IN ACCORDANCE WITH CONDITIONS OF EXPORT LICENSE. DISCUSSIONS WERE HELD WITH ANTON LOMBARD, DIRECTOR OF SAFAIR, AND MR. DE JAEGER, SAFAIR CHIEF OF OPERATIONS AND VARIOUS RECORDS WERE CHECKED WITH FOLLOWING RESULTS:

A. CIVIL/LOGAIR RATIO: MR. LOMBARD ASSURED EMBOFF THAT SAFAIR STRICTLY ADHERING TO 70/30 CIVIL/LOGAIR RATIO AND TO BACK UP CLAIM SHOWED EMBOFF MOST RECENT SAFAIR BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT WHICH CONTAIN COMPLETE CIVIL/LOGAIR STATISTICS. REPORT STATED THAT DURING PERIOD OF APRIL 1975 THROUGH JANUARY 1976, RATION WAS 73/27. THE 73/27 RATIO DID NOT INCLUDE FIGURES FOR TWO AIRCRAFT ON LEASE TO ALASKA INTERNATIONAL AIR. WHEN THESE TWO AIRCRAFT WERE INCLUDED, RATIO FOR PERIOD APRIL 1975 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1975 (AIA STOPPED PROVIDING STATISTICS TO SAFAIR AFTER IT WAS DECIDED

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THAT THEY WOULD SWAP AIRCRAFT) WAS 90/10. EMBOFF

INSPECTED LOG BOOKS FOR THREE AIRCRAFT, PICKED AT RANDOM, SAMPLED CARGO MANIFESTS AND LOOKED AT SAFAIR OPERATIONS BOARD, WHICH SHOWS ALL FLIGHTS SCHEDULED FOR REMAINDER OF MARCH, APRIL AND INTO MAY, ALL OF WHICH APPEARED TO VERIFY THAT SAFAIR HAD IN FACT BEEN MAINTAINING PROPER CIVIL/LOGAIR RATIO.

B. CIVILIAN CREWS: EMBOFF REVIEWED PERSONNEL ROSTERS AND RANDOMLY SELECTED PERSONNEL FILES OF AIR CREW MEMBERS (CAPTAINS, FIRST OFFICERS, NAVIGATORS AND FLIGHT ENGINEERS), SOME OF WHOM WERE EX-SOUTH AFRICAN AIR FORCE, AND VERIFIED THAT CREW MEMBERS ARE CIVILIANS WORKING FOR SAFAIR IN FULL-TIME CAPACITY. SAFAIR CURRENTLY EMPLOYS 14 CAPTAINS, 15 FIRST OFFICERS, 8 NAVIGATORS (NEEDED ONLY FOR OVERSEAS FLIGHTS) AND ABOUT 21 FLIGHT ENGINEERS. THEY PLANNING TO HIRE ADDITIONAL CAPTAINS AND FIRST OFFICERS TO HANDLE INCREASED WORK LOAD AND NEW AIRCRAFT WILL BE ARRIVING SOON.

C. CIVILIAN MAINTENANCE: FIRST ESCHELON MAINTENANCE IS DONE ON ALL L-100'S BY SAFAIR. REMAINDER OF MAINTENANCE DONE BY SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS UNDER CONTRACT. EMBOFF WAS SHOWN COPY OF MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT CONTRACT BETWEEN SAFAIR AND MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION (SAA). BEGINNING IN ABOUT JULY, HOWEVER, SAFAIR WILL DO ALL MAINTENANCE ON THEIR AIRCRAFT THEMSELVES IN NEW FACILITIES CURRENTLY BEING BUILT. EMBOFF SAW NEW BUILDINGS AS WELL AS BLUEPRINTS OF MAINTENANCE HANGERS, ETC. MR. LOMBARD ALSO SHOWED EMBOFF ABOUT 15 PERSONNEL FILES OF MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL RECENTLY HIRED BY SAFAIR TO DO THEIR MAINTENANCE. THEY PLAN TO HIRE TOTAL OF 50 MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL BY JULY.

D. FLIGHTS TO RHODESIA: REVIEW OF RANDOMLY SELECTED LOG BOOKS, WHICH CONTAINED POINTS OF DEPARTURE AND DESTINATIONS FOR ALL FLIGHTS, REVEALED NO INDICATION WHATSOEVER OF FLIGHTS TO RHODESIA WITH EXCEPTION OF ONE OR TWO ENTRIES FOR REFUELING STOPS AT FORT VICTORIA WHICH, AS DEPT WILL REMEMBER, WERE APPROVED BY DEPT. MR. LOMBARD NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT EVEN THESE REFUELING STOPS HAD NOW BEEN DISCONTINUED AND THAT THEY MADE NO FLIGHTS AT ALL INTO RHODESIA.

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E. RESALE OR REEXPORT OF AIRCRAFT: ONLY AIRCRAFT TRANSACTION HAS BEEN SWAP OF TWO L-100'S WITH AIA, WHICH HAS BEEN REPORTED.

F. COMPLIANCE WITH PREVIOUS LICENSES: SAFAIR APPEARED TO BE IN FULL COMPLIANCE WITH PREVIOUS LICENSES ISSUED BY COMMERCE. EMBASSY INVESTIGATION DID NOT REVEAL ANY VIOLATIONS OF LICENSING AGREEMENTS EITHER DIRECTLY OR

IN SPIRIT.

2. MR. LOMBARD STATED THAT BUSINESS IS BOOMING FOR SAFAIR AND SHOWED EMBOFF PORTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT WHICH REPORTED THAT DURING PERIOD APRIL 1975 THROUGH JANUARY 1976 THERE HAD BEEN 41 PERCENT INCREASE IN FLIGHT HOURS (ROUGHLY EQUIVALENT TO 41 PERCENT INCREASE IN BUSINESS). HE ADDED FOR ENTIRE YEAR THEY ARE PREDICTING 60 PERCENT INCREASE IN FLIGHT HOURS AS RESULT OF RECENTLY ACQUIRED CONTRACT TO HAUL MAIL TO CAPE TOWN FOR DEPARTMENT OF POST AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOON TO BE SIGNED CONTRACT FOR HAULING MINE LABORERS (SEE SEPTEL. HE FURTHER COMMENTED THAT AIRCRAFT SCHEDULING GETTING VERY TIGHT AND THEY VERY ANXIOUS TO GET DELIVERY OF THEIR ADDITIONAL AIRCRAFT. SAFAIR ALSO TALKING WITH DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY ABOUT UTILIZING THEIR AIRCRAFT FOR FIRE FIGHTING.

3. EMBASSY SATISFIED THAT SAFAIR ADHERING TO TERMS OF EXPORT LICENSE AND BELIEVES LICENSE FOR SWAP WITH AIA SHOULD BE ISSUED. IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT SAFAIR ORIGINALLY LEASED TWO L-100'S TO AIA IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST OF USG IN ORDER TO SPEED UP CONSTRUCTION OF ALASKA PIPELINE. AS INDICATED ABOVE, SAFAIR WAS AGAIN EXTREMELY COOPERATIVE AND VERY FORTHCOMING WITH EMBASSY.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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